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Statement for the Record

Honoring William V. “Bill” Bidwill Sr.

October 3, 2019

Senate

Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of William V. Bidwill, who passed away in Phoenix, Arizona on October 2, 2019 at the age of 88. As the owner of the National Football League’s (NFL) Arizona Cardinals, Mr. Bidwill loved his faith, his family, and football. He will be fondly remembered as a principled leader and generous steward of his community.

Bill began his career in football by joining the family business as a ball boy for the then Chicago Cardinals. After graduating from Georgetown University, Bill returned to Chicago to assist his father with day to day management of the Cardinals. Bill oversaw the team’s move to St. Louis, MO in 1960 and took on full ownership of the team in 1972. In 1988, Bill moved the team to Arizona, where they have since found a home among a dedicated and growing fan base. In his time as owner of the Cardinals, Bill took unprecedented steps to rearrange the team’s front office to improve diversity across the organization, setting an example for other NFL franchises for years to come. Bill also founded Cardinals Charities in 1990 to support women, children and minorities across Arizona, which has donated \$9.1 million to support these groups and other causes over the years.

Bill is survived by his five children, ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He will be dearly missed by other family members, friends, the Arizona Cardinals organization, and hundreds of thousands of fans grateful for his work to bring the National Football League to Arizona. Please join me in honoring his memory.

Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator